

## **Plan Maintenance**

The plan maintenance section of this document details the formal process that will ensure that the Pulaski County Hazard Mitigation Plan remains an active and relevant document. The plan maintenance process includes a schedule for monitoring and evaluating the plan annually and producing a plan revision every five years. This section describes how the county will integrate public participation throughout the plan maintenance process. Finally, this section includes an explanation of how Pulaski County government intends to incorporate the mitigation strategies outlined in this Plan into existing planning mechanisms such as the County Local Emergency Operations Plan, CEDS and floodplain management.

## **Plan Adoption**

The Pulaski County Commission and the city councils of Crocker, Dixon, Richland, St. Robert and Waynesville will be responsible for adopting the Pulaski County Hazard Mitigation Plan. These governing bodies have the authority to promote sound public policy regarding natural hazards. Once the plan has been adopted, the Pulaski County Emergency Management Director will be responsible for submitting it to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at Missouri State Emergency Management Agency. Missouri State Emergency Management will then submit the plan to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for review. This review will address the federal criteria outlined in FEMA Interim Final Rule 44 CFR Part 201. Upon acceptance by FEMA, Pulaski County will gain eligibility for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds.

## **Monitoring, Evaluating and Updating**

Periodic revisions and updates of the Plan are required by Missouri SEMA to ensure that the goals and objectives for Pulaski County are kept current. More importantly, revisions may be necessary to ensure the plan is in full compliance with Federal regulations and state statutes. This portion of the plan outlines the procedures for completing such revisions and updates.

## **Five-Year Plan Review**

The three background studies (Hazard Identification and Analysis, Capabilities Assessment, and Community Vulnerability Assessment) and the goals and objectives should be reviewed every five years to determine if there have been any significant changes in Pulaski County that would affect the hazard mitigation plan. Increased development, increased exposure to certain hazards, the development of new mitigation capabilities or techniques, and changes to federal or state legislation are examples of changes that may affect the condition of the plan.

Further, following a disaster declaration, the plan will need to be revised to reflect on lessons learned or to address specific circumstances arising out of the disaster.

The results of this five-year review should become summarized in a report prepared for this mitigation plan under direction of the Pulaski County Emergency Management Director. The report will include an evaluation of the effectiveness and appropriateness of the plan, and will recommend, as appropriate, any required changes or amendments to the plan.

The planning committee directed to review the plan shall be composed of representatives from various government agencies, county officials, city employees, utility service employees, emergency responders and planners, regional planners and any concerned county residents. The committee shall be established when the five-year review period nears and will meet only twice to discuss mitigation updates. Pulaski County has a part-time emergency management director, multiple reviews and meetings are a feasible possibility. Upon meeting, the committee members will also report on the status of their projects and will include which implementation processes worked well, any difficulties encountered, how coordination efforts were proceeding, and which strategies should be revised.

The emergency management office will then have six months to update and make changes to the plan before submitting it to the committee members and state hazard mitigation officer. If no changes are necessary, the state hazard mitigation officer will be given a justification for this determination.

### **Implementation through Existing Programs**

Through active involvement in the Meramec Regional Planning Commission, Pulaski County and its cities address regional planning and economic goals through the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Survey. The hazard mitigation plan provides a series of recommendations—several of which are closely related to the goals and objectives of existing planning programs. Pulaski County will have the opportunity to implement recommended mitigation action items through existing programs and procedures.

Upon adoption, the Pulaski County Hazard Mitigation Plan will serve as a baseline of information on the natural hazards that impact the county and each of its cities. These goals and objectives will help local governments and other organizations plan for natural hazard mitigation in their own planning documents. Within two years of formal adoption of the mitigation plan, the recommendations listed above should be incorporated into the process of existing planning mechanisms at the county level. The meetings of the hazard mitigation planning committee will provide an opportunity for committee members to report back on the progress made on the integration of mitigation planning elements into county/city planning documents and procedures.

## **Continued Public Involvement**

Pulaski County is dedicated to involving the public directly in review and updates of the hazard mitigation plan. The hazard mitigation planning committee members are responsible for the annual review and update of the plan.

The public will also have the opportunity to provide feedback about the plan. Copies of the plan will be catalogued and kept at all of the appropriate agencies in the county. A public meeting will also be held after each five-year evaluation or when deemed necessary by the hazard mitigation planning committee. The meetings will provide the public a forum for which they can express its concerns, opinions, or ideas about the plan. The county will be responsible for publicizing the meetings and maintaining public involvement through the public access channel, website and newspapers.